GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5152
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2003
FAKE RATION CARDS
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken up the matter with the State Government of WestBengal to check the fake ration cards obtained by Bangladeshi nationals in border areas as reported in the `Statesman` dated March 5, 2003;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to check such activities of Bangladeshies in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SU MAHARIA)

(a),(b)&(c): Yes, Sir. It has been reported that the Government of West Bengal has formulated strict procedures like production of birth Certificate, Voter indentity cards etc. for cross checking the genuineness before the ration cards are issued. The District Magistrates as the head of the District Administration, have been given full power for thorough scrutiny in the matter of issue of ration cards to the applicants residing within 15 Kms. of the border districts.